

the Endangered Species Act in order to further review public comments on the proposal. The announcement comes in response to a letter initiated by members of the Pennsylvania congressional delegation outlining the lack of sufficient data used to support the designation and cautioning that moving forward with the listing would constitute a fundamentally ineffective approach to species restoration while severely harming the economy.

The Service initially cited the effects of the white-nose syndrome as the lone basis for its proposed endangered listing. Although the disease is impacting the long-eared bat in areas of 38 States, the Service has acknowledged that the economic activities that would be most affected by the proposed listing have little impact on the population numbers or the decline of the species.

Madam Speaker, this extension will allow for a fresh look at the sufficiency and the accuracy of the data and, with any hope, will allow the Service to consider a better alternative or more effective approach to combat the white-nose syndrome.

CRAFT AN IMMIGRATION POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIÉRREZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Madam Speaker, I came to the floor on April 2 to tell my Republican colleagues that they had 3 months to craft an immigration policy before the July Fourth recess. At the time, there was still hope that sensible Republicans would see that their existence as a national party depended on getting the immigration issue resolved. I came back to this well almost every week to remind my Republican colleagues that time was running out. With the Nation gripped by World Cup fever, let me give you a visual representation of my message for the last 3 months.

I gave Republicans a yellow card to put them on warning if they failed to act on immigration. If they failed to act, they would be out of the game. Having met with the President in March, I knew he was prepared to give Republicans time to craft an immigration reform bill, but if they failed to take action, I knew the President intended to use his pen and pad to save families at risk of being deported.

Let's review where we stand 3 months after I gave you the first warning.

A year ago this Friday marks the 1-year anniversary of passage of the bipartisan Senate immigration reform bill that passed with 68 votes in the Senate. We had our own group of 8 here in the House crafting a tough but fair immigration compromise, but politics slowed us down and the effort collapsed. Some leaders in the Republican Party, knowing that immigration reform is the only way to achieve border security and workplace verification like E-Verify, legal immigration to feed our economy, and compassion and

justice for how we treat our immigrant neighbors and friends, some in the Republican Party kept trying, and I thank them.

On my side of the aisle, we kept an open mind. When the Speaker of the House said no to the Senate bill, I said, okay, let's find a way to craft a House bill. When Republicans said no to a conference, I said we will find a way to make it work if that is what needs to be done.

Piecemeal bills they said, not a comprehensive bill. I said we will work with you. No direct path to citizenship for most immigrants, well, we didn't like it, but we kept talking. No one tried harder than I did to keep the two parties talking about how to move forward on immigration.

There are Members of the House Republican Conference who need immigration reform politically, others who want it because it restores law and order, and others for reasons deeply grounded in their conservative philosophy. Still others in the Republican Conference are fighting for reform out of a sense of compassion and doing the right thing, as my friend Mr. DIAZ-BALART from Florida has.

But months passed and Republicans turned their backs on their own members, turned their backs on the American people, turned their backs on the business community, on Latino and Asian voters, and on those trying to save the Republican Party from itself.

You know, Madam Speaker, I kept hoping the better angels in the Republican Party would tamp down the irrational and angry angels blocking reform the American people want and deserve.

And then the last straw. As violence and poverty and gangs drive families out of Central America, I see Republican Members of Congress and their allies in talk radio and TV taking advantage of a humanitarian crisis to score cheap political points. In a few hours, the Judiciary Committee, which has done nothing to help move the Republican Party and the Congress forward on immigration, will hold a hearing on what it calls "Administration-Made Disaster at U.S.-Mexico Border."

I gave you the warning 3 months ago and now I have no other choice. You are done. You are done. Leave the field. Too many flagrant offenses and unfair attacks and too little action. You are out. Hit the showers. It is the red card.

First of all, your chance to play a role in how immigration and deportation policies are carried out this year is over. Having been given ample time and space to craft legislation, you failed. The President now has no other choice but to act within existing law to ensure that our deportation policies are humane, that due process rights are protected, that detention conditions are as they should be, and, most importantly, that the people who we are deporting are detriments to our communities, not assets to our families, economy, and society.

I think we all know that you are out when it comes to the White House. By taking no action, even after repeated warnings, you have decided it is up to the Democrats to pick the Supreme Court Justices, conduct foreign policy, and carry out all the functions of the executive branch for a generation, for the next 30 years. The Republican Presidential nominee, whoever he or she may be, will enter the race with an electoral college deficit they cannot make up.

Republicans in the House simply have no answer when it comes to immigration reform, and Republicans have failed America and failed themselves. Madam Speaker, it is now time for the President to act.

A CALL TO ACTION AGAINST BULLYING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. GRIMM) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GRIMM. Madam Speaker, I rise, unfortunately, today to call attention to a growing epidemic that is plaguing families across our country, and particularly in my district in Staten Island and Brooklyn.

This week the New York Post and the Staten Island Advance mentioned a story of an 11-year-old student, Cyon Williams. Cyon's struggle is with unaddressed bullying, which drove him to contemplate violence and suicide. Think about that, an 11-year-old boy contemplating violence and suicide.

Just a few weeks ago, I met with this bright and very impressive young man along with his mother at their home. I have to tell you it was an absolutely heartbreaking story to see this very mild-mannered, very nice, polite, respectful young man tell me a heartbreaking story of how he is terrified to go to school every day, but yet he is yearning to read and to learn.

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Unfortunately, Madam Speaker, Cyon is far from alone. There is an example of a tragic suicide of a 15-year-old Tottenville student back in 2012, and that suicide proves all too well that this epidemic is continuing.

In her memory and the memory of countless innocent children victimized by bullying, it is time that we all say enough is enough. We must demand accountability from those charged with addressing bullying in our schools, especially in New York City, where one in five public school students are victimized by abusive peers.

I am calling on all of my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring H.R. 1199, the Safe Schools Improvement Act. This would require all public schools to establish policies to combat bullying.

We owe it to all of our young adults to demand safe learning environments, where they can grow and develop in a peaceful environment.